

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 21

COLOSSIANS 3:12-17

The Bible begins with a poem in the book of Genesis that contains all sorts of incredible imagery of creation. We are all familiar with the story of Adam and Eve, the breath of life that is breathed into them, their fall as they gave into their own selfishness, and God's response as he expels them from the garden for their sin. But what is often forgotten is probably the most beautiful imagery from the story. Let's start with their response:

Then the eyes of both of them were opened, and they realized they were naked; so they sewed fig leaves together and made coverings for themselves (Genesis 3:7).

But now look at God's response:

The Lord God made garments of skin for Adam and his wife and clothed them (Genesis 3:21).

Adam and Eve made clothes for themselves, but those clothes weren't adequate. Only God knew how best to clothe them and who they really needed to be.

Paul echoes this as he writes, "As God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience." This seems almost impossible our own, and we often fail miserably when we try. That's why Paul tells us to "let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts" and "let the message of Christ dwell among you richly."

Holiness isn't something we attain. It is the gift of the Father, exemplified through Christ's life, and given to us through the power of the Holy Spirit. Allow this gift to be presented to you and allow God to wrap you in his love. If you do, holiness will become a much easier path to walk.

How will your life change as a result of allowing God, through the Holy Spirit, to clothe you in compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness, and patience? What will that look like at home, work, or with your neighbors?